Serial No. 10/678,065 .   ASA-927-02

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11   (Canceled)

12.   (New)   A document retrieval method, comprising:

a user's evaluation input step for inputting a user's

evaluation of a document by designating a document retrieved

in a document search conducted pursuant to a search condition;

a search condition storage step for, when updating said

search condition on the basis of said evaluation, storing a

search condition before and after the update;

a search result storage step for storing a search result

based on the search condition before and after the update; and

a search history storage step for storing information

stored in said search condition storage step, information

stored in said search result storage step, and said evaluation

and an identifier of a document subjected to said evaluation

by making a correspondence between them.

13.   (New)   A document retrieval method according to

claim 12, further comprising an evaluation history display

step for delivering a list of documents for which the user has

inputted evaluations to evaluate said documents as desirable

2

Serial No. 10/678,065   ASA-927-02

or undesirable in the past on the basis of the information

stored in said search history storage step and said

evaluations for said documents.

14.   (New)   A document retrieval method according to

claim 12, further comprising a search result history display

step for delivering a document delivered as a search result

before said search condition is updated on the basis of said

evaluation even after said search condition is updated, on the

basis of the information stored in said search history storage

step.

15.   (New)   A document retrieval method according to

claim 13, further comprising a search condition restoration

step for restoring, of the evaluation history delivered in

said evaluation history display step,.a search condition

before a desired evaluation is inputted.

16.   (New)   A document retrieval method according to

claim 13, further comprising a search condition update step

for inputting an evaluation to evaluate a document delivered

in said evaluation history display step as desirable or

3

Serial No. 10/678,065   ASA-927-02

undesirable and updating said search condition on the basis of

said evaluation input in said search condition update step.

     17.   (New)   A document retrieval method according to

claim 13, further comprising a user evaluation erase step for

erasing a desired one of said evaluations as to desirability

or undesirability inputted by the user in said evaluation

history display step, in accordance with a request from the

user, and updating the search condition to the state available

when said evaluation is not made.

     18.   (New)   A document retrieval method according to

claim 14, further comprising a search condition update step

for causing the user to input an evaluation to evaluate the

document delivered in said search result history display step

as desirable or undesirable so as to update said search

condition on the basis of said evaluation input of said search

condition update step.

     19.   (New)   A document retrieval method according to

claim 18, further comprising a user evaluation erase step for

erasing a desired evaluation as to desirability or

undesirability inputted by the user and delivered in said

4

Serial No. 10/678,065   ASA-927-02

search result history display step, in accordance with a
request from the user and updating weights of strings in the
search condition to the state available when said evaluation
is not made.

20.   (New)   A document retrieval method according to
claim 12, wherein a user's evaluation for a search result
document is inputted in accordance with a method for setting
one or more evaluation grades, the search condition includes
weights assigned to strings and the weight of a string is
updated in accordance with a method for setting the degree of
change in many grades pursuant to said evaluation.

21.   (New)   A document retrieval system, comprising:
a user's evaluation input step for inputting a user's
evaluation of a document by designating a document retrieved
in a document search conducted pursuant to a search condition;
search condition storage means for storing, when said
search condition is updated on the basis of said evaluation, a
search condition before and after the update;
search result storage means for storing a search result
based on the search condition before and after the update; and

5

Serial No. 10/678,065   ASA-927-02

search history storage means for storing information

stored by said search condition storage means, information

stored by said search result storage means, and said

evaluation and an identifier of a document subjected to said

evaluation by making a correspondence between them.

22.   (New)   A computer-readable recording medium storing

a document retrieval program which, when executed by a

computer, causes the computer to perform a document retrieval

method comprising:

a user's evaluation input step for inputting a user's

evaluation of a document by designating a document retrieved

in a document search conducted pursuant to a search condition;

a search condition storage step for storing, when

updating said search condition on the basis of said

evaluation, a search condition before and after the update;

a search result storage step for storing a search result

based on the search condition before and after the update; and

a search history storage step for storing information stored

in said search condition storage step, information stored in

said search result storage step, and said evaluation and an

identifier of a document subjected to said evaluation by

making a correspondence between them.

6